

they be confirmed subject to the nominees' commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, for the Committee on Foreign Relations, I report favorably nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS of the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Foreign Service nominations beginning Craig B. Allen and ending Daniel E. Harris, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on April 7, 2000.

Foreign Service nominations beginning C. Franklin Foster, Jr. and ending Michael Patrick Glover, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on April 7, 2000.

Foreign Service nominations beginning Leslie O'Connor and ending David P. Lambert, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on May 11, 2000.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Mr. ASHCROFT, and Mr. ABRAHAM):

S. 2685. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives for the production, sale, and use of highly-efficient, advanced technology motor vehicles and to amend the Energy Policy Act of 1992 to undertake an assessment of the relative effectiveness of current and potential methods to further encourage the development of the most fuel efficient vehicles for use in interstate commerce in the United States; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COCHRAN (for himself and Mr. AKAKA):

S. 2686. A bill to amend chapter 36 of title 39, United States Code, to modify rates relating to reduced rate mail matter, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire:

S. 2687. A bill regarding the sale and transfer of Moskit anti-ship missiles by the Russian Federation; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. INOUE (for himself, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. DODD, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 2688. A bill to amend the Native American Languages Act to provide for the support of Native American Language Survival Schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. 2689. A bill to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Andrew Jackson Higgins (posthumously), and to the D-day Museum in recognition of the contributions of Higgins Industries and the more than 30,000 employees of Higgins Industries to the Nation and to world peace during World War II; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. KERREY, and Mr. WELLSTONE).

S. 2690. A bill to reduce the risk that innocent persons may be executed, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. SMITH of Oregon):

S. 2691. A bill to provide further protections for the watershed of the Little Sandy River as part of the Bull Run Watershed Management Unit, Oregon, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 2692. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to improve the safety of imported products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. Res. 317. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate to congratulate and thank the members of the United States Armed Forces who participated in the June 6, 1944, D-Day invasion of Europe for forever changing the course of history by helping bring an end to World War II; to the Committee Armed Services.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. GREGG, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. ROBB, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. Res. 318. A resolution honoring the 129 sailors and civilians lost aboard the U.S.S. Thresher (SSN 593) on April 10, 1963; extending the gratitude of the Nation for their last, full measure of devotion; and acknowledging the contributions of the Naval Submarine Service and the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard to the defense of the Nation; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. ROBB (for himself, Mr. REID, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. Con. Res. 120. A concurrent resolution to express the sense of Congress regarding the need to pass legislation to increase penalties on perpetrators of hate crimes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. COCHRAN (for himself and Mr. AKAKA):

S. 2686. A bill to amend chapter 36 of title 39, United States Code, to modify rates relating to reduced rate mail matter, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

LEGISLATION TO IMPROVE THE PROCESS FOR ESTABLISHING NONPROFIT POSTAGE RATES

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, today I am introducing a bill to improve the process used by the United States Postal Service to establish postage rates for nonprofit and other reduced-rate mailers.

Under the current rate setting procedure, nonprofit postage rates have changed significantly, often rising

more than corresponding commercial rates. In fact, in some cases, nonprofit mail rates have increased so much that the nonprofit rates are higher than similar commercial rates. According to the Postal Service, the unpredictable rate changes experienced by nonprofit mailers stem from difficulties the Service has had with gathering accurate cost data for small subclasses of mail.

By establishing a structured relationship between nonprofit and commercial postage rates, this legislation would protect all categories of nonprofit mail from unpredictable rate swings in the future. The bill would set nonprofit and classroom Periodical rates at 95 percent of the commercial counterpart rates (excluding the advertising portion), set nonprofit Standard A rates at 60 percent of the commercial Standard A rates, and set Library and Educational Matter rates at 95 percent of the rates for the special subclass of commercial Standard B mail.

The Postal Service recently proposed to increase postage rates for all classes of mail, and this proposal is now pending before the Postal Rate Commission. As part of its request, the Postal Service asked for nonprofit postage rates that are premised on the enactment of this, or similar, legislation to change the process for setting nonprofit mail rates. Without this legislation, nonprofit mailers will face potential double-digit rate hikes.

This bill achieves an appropriate balance between nonprofit and commercial postage rates, and provides nonprofit mailers with much needed rate predictability. It is a compromise solution that is supported by the United States Postal Service and several major commercial and nonprofit mailer associations, including: the Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers, the National Federation of Nonprofits, the Direct Marketing Association, the Magazine Publishers of America, and the Association of Postal Commerce.

I invite my colleagues to support this effort to protect nonprofit mailers by improving the method for establishing nonprofit postage rates.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2686

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SPECIAL RATEMAKING PROVISIONS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF REGULAR RATES FOR MAIL CLASSES WITH CERTAIN PREFERRED SUBCLASSES.—Section 3622 of title 39, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

“(c) Regular rates for each class or subclass of mail that includes 1 or more special rate categories for mail under former section 4358(d) or (e), 4452(b) or (c), or 4554(b) or (c) of